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REMARKS:

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 11 to un-capitalize the letter "a" as suggested by the Examiner, obviating the objections to claims 1 and 11. Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1 and 11 is requested. The prior art does not disclose, teach or suggest each and every element of new claims 21-22, support for which is found, inter alia, on page 6 of the specification. Therefore, claims 21-22 are patentable over the prior art. Additionally, claims 21-22 depend indirectly from claims 1 or 11, and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 11 as outlined below.

The §112 rejections

The §112 rejections of claims 1 and 3 have been obviated by amending the claims to recite "portion." Claim 2 has been cancelled, obviating the rejection.

The rejections of claims 3 and 13 as unclear based on the term "snap fit" is traversed. §112 requires only that the claims set out and circumscribe the invention with a reasonable degree of precision and particularity. The claims are interpreted, not in a vacuum, but in light of teachings of the disclosure as it would be interpreted by one of ordinary skill in the art. Those of ordinary skill in the art are well acquainted with the term "snap fit", and it strains credulity for the Examiner to argue otherwise.

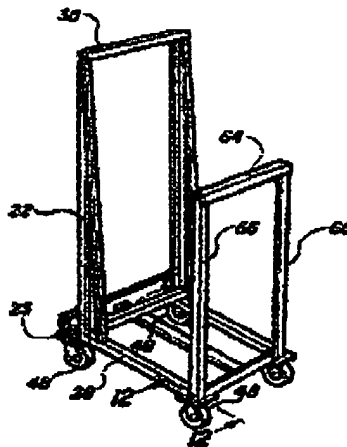
Withdrawal of the §112 rejections is requested.

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The §102(b) rejection over King

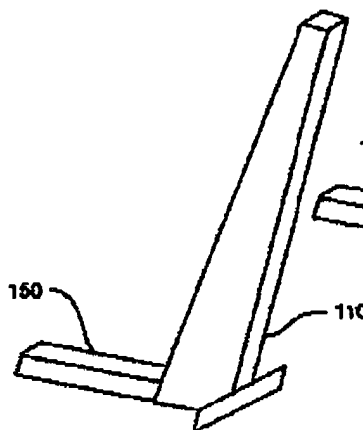
The §102(b) rejections of claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 18, and 19 as anticipated by King are traversed. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to recite "consisting of" rather than "comprising." Clearly, the supports disclosed by King include additional parts. Additionally, claims 2 and 12 have been cancelled, obviating the rejections.

See, FIG. 10 of King:



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as compared to the instant invention (FIG. 2 of the application):



As shown, therefore, any "support portion disclosed by King includes two portions" (i.e. frame 22 and support bars 26 identified by the Examiner), and cannot therefore be a unitary member as claimed.

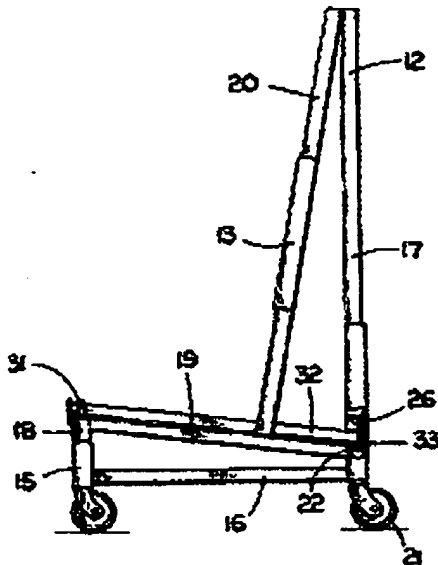
Claims 4 and 14 have been amended to claim that the flanged portion is part of the support portion rather than the base portion as shown in FIG. 6 of the application. At most, King discloses that the lower support includes a plug in connector 42. Further, mount flange 23 of King is attached to the frame 22, rather than the support portion.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 18, and 19 is requested.

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The §102(b) rejection over Blake

The §102(b) rejections of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, and 20 as anticipated by Blake are traversed. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to recite "consisting of" rather than "comprising." Additionally, claims 2 and 12 have been cancelled, obviating the rejections. Clearly, the supports disclosed by Blake include additional parts:



As shown, therefore, any "support portion" disclosed by Blake includes two portions (13, 17, and 20), and cannot therefore be a unitary member as claimed.

Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 18, and 19 is requested.

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The §103(a) rejection over King alone

The rejection of claims 3 and 13 as unpatentable over King is traversed. Claim 3 depends from claim 1, and claim 13 depends from claim 11, and therefore both claims 3 and 13 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 or 11. Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 3 and 13 is requested.

The §103(a) rejection over King in view of Robertson

The rejection of claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 as unpatentable over King in view of Robertson is traversed. Claims 6 and 7 depend from claim 1, and claims 16 and 17 depend from claim 11, and therefore claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 or 11. Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 is requested.

The §103(a) rejection over Blake alone

The rejection of claims 3, 8, 13, and 18 as unpatentable over Blake is traversed. Claims 3 and 8 depend from claim 1, and claims 13 and 18 depend from claim 11, and therefore claims 3, 8, 13, and 18 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 or 11. Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 3, 8, 13, and 18 is requested.

The §103(a) rejection over Blake in view of Robertson

The rejection of claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 as unpatentable over Blake in view of Robertson is traversed. Claims 6 and 7 depend from claim 1, and claims 16 and 17 depend from claim 11, and therefore claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 or 11. Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 is requested.

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CONCLUSION

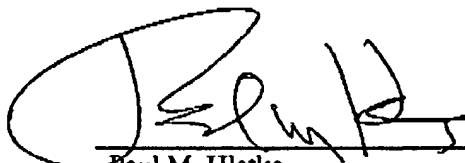
The rejections of claims 1-20 have been obviated by amendments and remarks herein, and Applicant submits that claims 1-20 fully satisfy 35 U.S.C. §101, 102, 103, and 112, and requests this case proceed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 31, 2006

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